House Study Committee on Education Innovation

January 22, 2014

Are you #ready2LIFT?

PROJECT LIFT

Leadership & Investment For Transformation

What is Project L.I.F.T?

- A public-private partnership with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

- A $55M investment from philanthropic community over 5 years
  - Private support is approximately $1200 incremental per student per year

- An effort to strategically coordinate resources to support educational transformation

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9 Schools with the Greatest Need

West Charlotte Corridor

- PreK-12 feeder zone
- Over 7200 students
- Highest concentrated poverty

CMS Lowest-Performing Schools

- Graduation rate
- End-of-Grade test scores
- Out-of-school suspensions
- Behavioral incidents
- Unexcused absences
- High teacher turnover

1 Allenbrook Elementary. 1430 Allenbrook Drive

2 Bruns Avenue PreK-8, 501 S. Bruns Ave.

3 Byers PreK-8, 1415 Hamilton St.

4 Druid Hills PreK-8, 2801 Lucena St.

5 Statesville Road Elementary, 5833 Milhaven Lane

6 Thomasboro PreK-8, 538 Bradford Drive

7 Ranson Middle, 5850 Statesville Road

8 West Charlotte High, 2219 Senior Drive

9 Ashley Park PreK-8

Project L.I.F.T. Reform Model
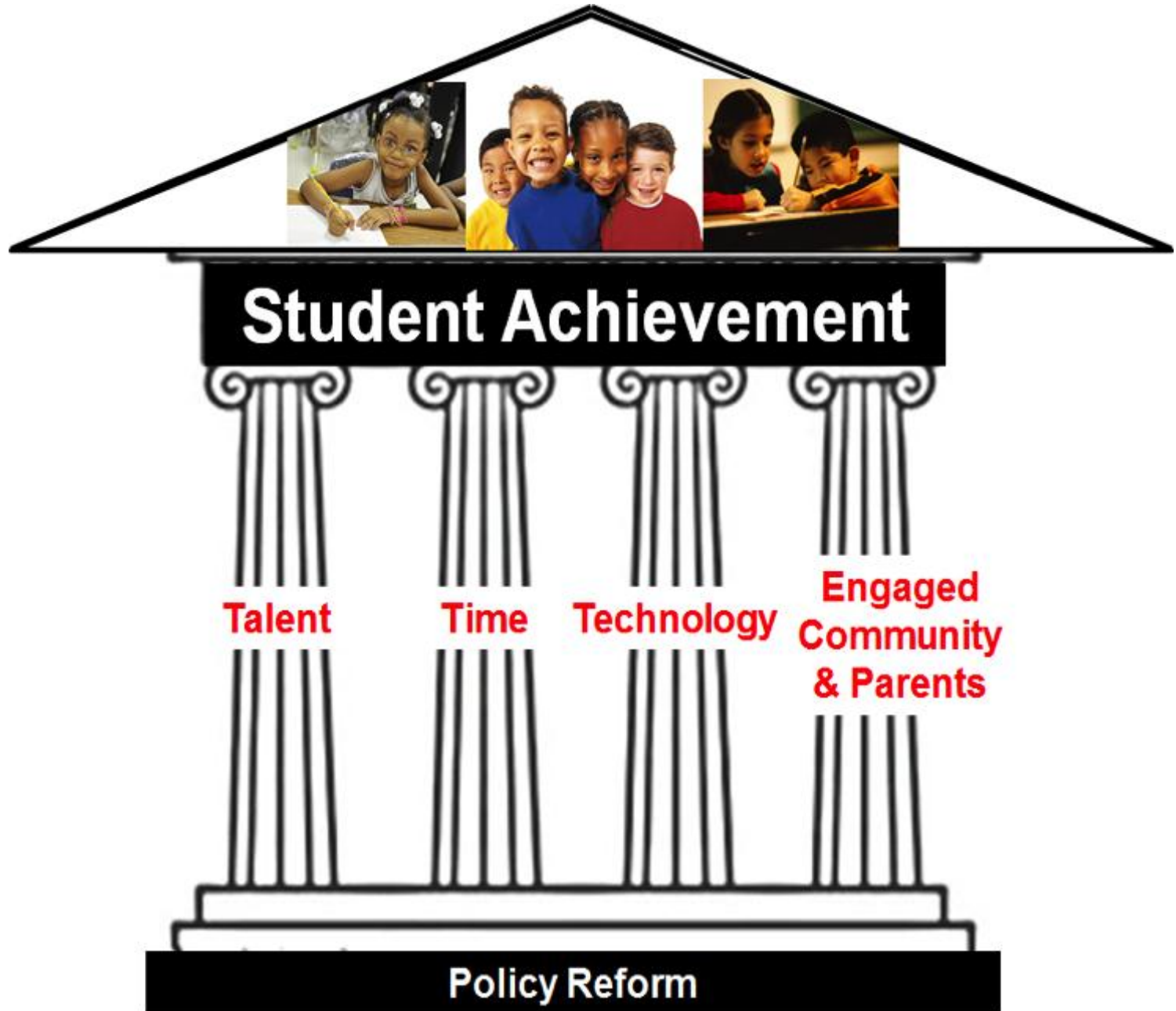
Project L.I.F.T. Goals

- 90% **graduation gate** at West Charlotte High School

- 90% **proficiency rates** in tested subject areas

- 90% of our children will obtain **more than a year's worth of growth** on all state tests

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A Review of the Day

- One Lap Top Per Child

- Continuous Learning Calendar

- Opportunity Culture

- Blended Learning

- L.I.F.T. Academy
  - Co Principalship Model
  - Alternative Learning Options

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Agenda

- Highlight public private partnership between Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and Project L.I.F.T.

- Identify and describe the coordination of grant funded partners supporting Project L.I.F.T.

- Describe the unconventional practices used to engage parents and the community

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Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools & Project L.I.F.T.
A Public-Private Partnership

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Evolution of the Partnership

September 2010	CMS Investment Study Group begins early planning
January 2011	Joint announcement of initiative and partnership at West Charlotte High School
July through November 2011	Transition in Leadership • CMS Superintendent Resigns • L.I.F.T. Executive Director hired • School Board changes
January 2012	Joint Meeting to discuss the initiative and begin formalizing partnership
February 2012	Formal Collaboration Agreement Signed between L.I.F.T. Board and CMS School Board
June 2012	Year 1 Implementation Begins

Collaboration Agreement

- Establishes the desire of both entities to **work together, collaborate, and engage in innovation** in order to close the achievement gap, increase graduation rates, attract and retain teachers, and engage parents and the community.

- Formal agreement outlines:
  - Responsibilities of CMS School Board
  - Duties of Project L.I.F.T. Governance Board
  - Dispute Resolution
  - Operating principles that provide flexibility and encourage innovation

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Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools & Project L.I.F.T.
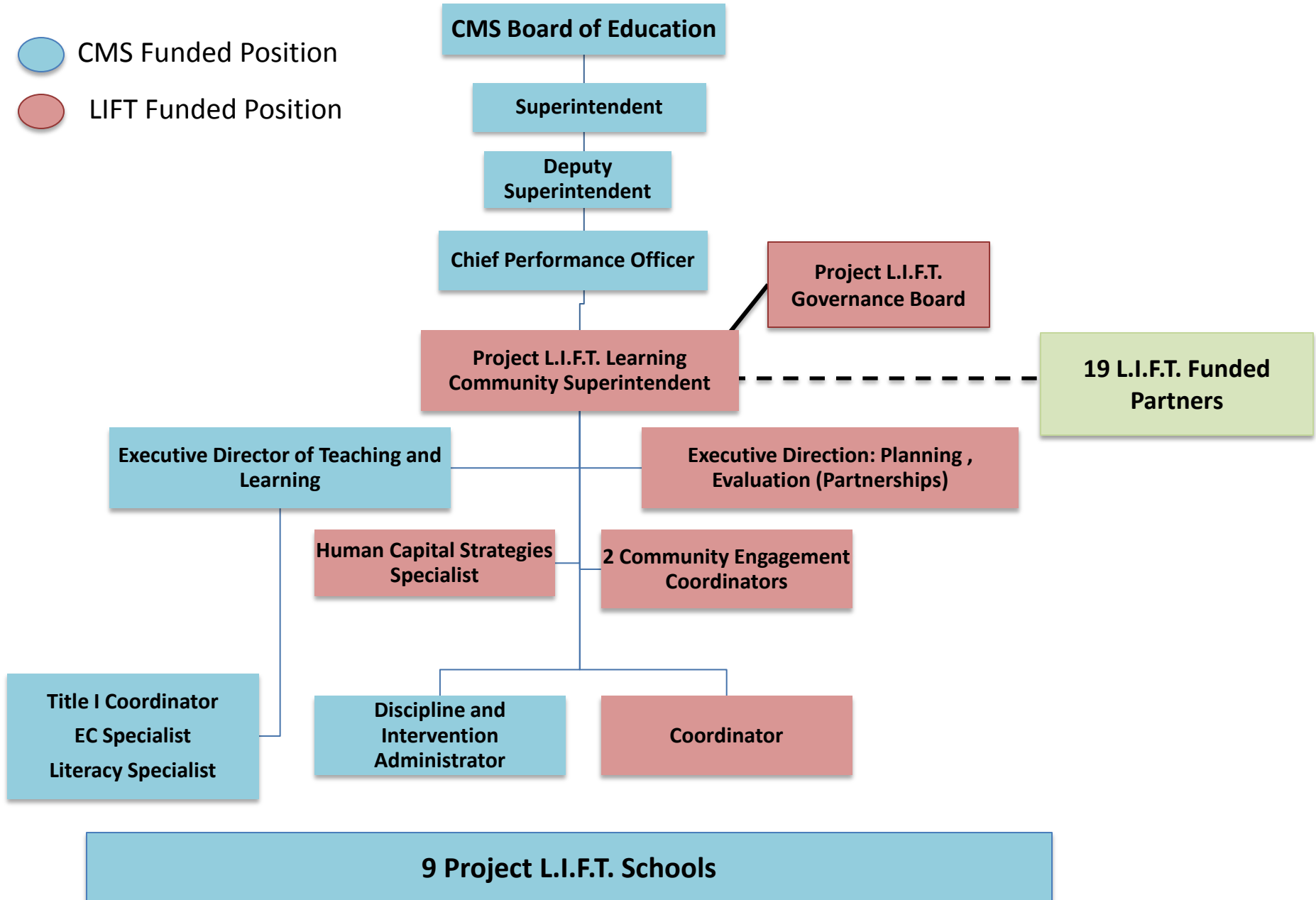## A Public Private Partnership

- CMS leadership and school board representation on L.I.F.T. Governance Board

- Regular school board updates

- Continued open lines of informal communication

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Project L.I.F.T. Reporting Structure

Grant Funded Partners

Synergy of 19 Partners

Talent

Parents & Community Support

Time

Technology

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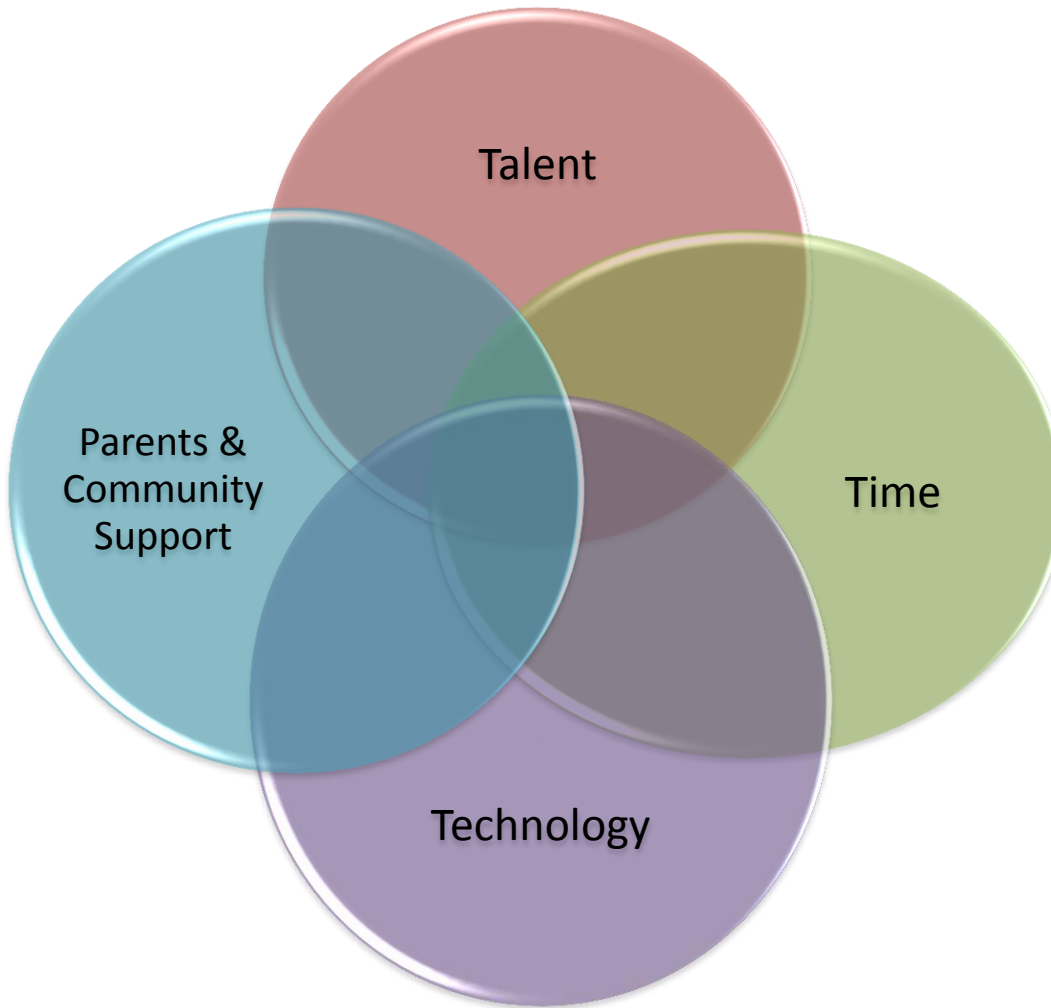
Balancing Act

Isolated Impact   Collective Impact

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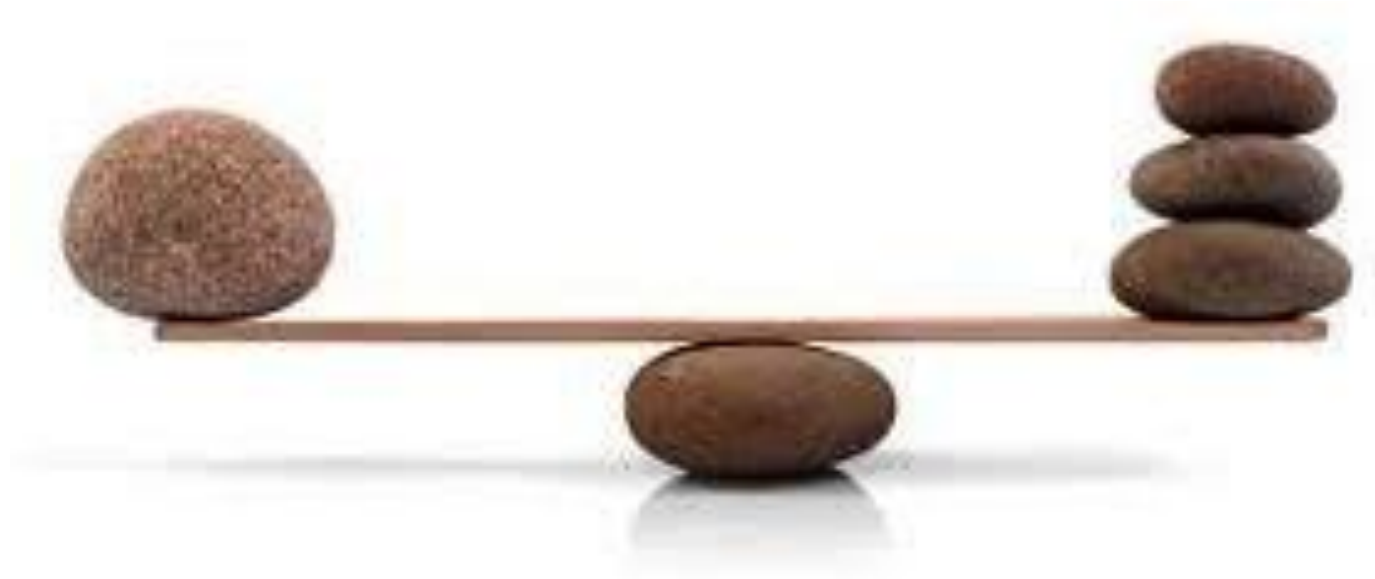
Partners and Strategies

- $12M Investment in partnerships and strategies in Year 1
- Partner goals/deliverables
  - Selected through an RFP process
  - Align to school dropout predictors
  - Strategic plan reform categories: talent, time, technology, and community and parent support

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Project L.I.F.T. Partners

- Memorandum of Understanding developed
  - Establish agreed upon goals/deliverables
  - Determine funding and budget details

- Monthly collaborative meetings

- Expectation that partners work together to ensure mutually reinforcing activities

- 2 progress-to-goal checkpoints throughout funding cycle

- Other interactions/communication as needed.

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Talent Partners

- Teach For America
- New Leaders
- Public Impact
- University of Virginia: Darden/Curry School Turnaround Program

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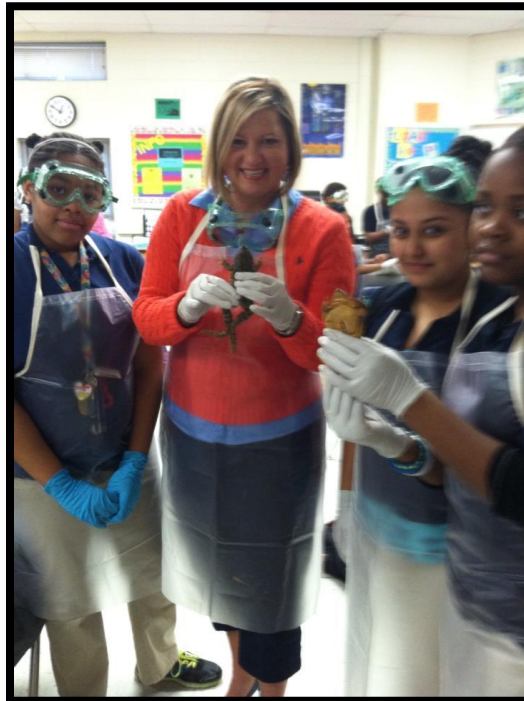
Time Partners

- YMCA of Greater Charlotte

- Johnson C. Smith University: Charlotte's Web

- Youth Development Initiative

- Building Educated Leaders for Life (BELL)

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Technology Partners

- Microsoft

- Ten80 Student Racing Challenge: NASCAR STEM Initiative

- One Laptop Per Child

- Kajeet (Broadband Internet Access)

- M&A Technology

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Digital Inclusion Program

- 440 families
- Provide a high quality computer from M&A Technology

  - ✓ Windows 7
  - ✓ Microsoft Office 2010
  - ✓ Free "safe" WiFi for one year from **Kajeet**
  - ✓ Free educational tools
  - ✓ Free training on how to best use the PC to support your student's education

Technology Strategies

- Promote hands on project-based learning with digital tools

- Provide training for parents and teachers to earn industry level certifications

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Ten80 Foundation: NASCAR STEM Program

Parent and Community Engagement

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Vision for Parent and Community Engagement

Providing Information
- Telling people what will happen

Consultation
- Offering and receiving feedback

Deciding Together
- Opportunities for ideas and joint decisions

Acting Together
- Taking joint decisions forward in partnership

Parent & Community Engagement Highlights

- Continuous Learning Calendar engagement efforts

- New branding and marketing campaign

- Text messaging platform

- The Pulse

- Engage Institute

- School-Based Resource Teams

Parent Engagement & Community Partners

- Right Moves for Youth

- Men Who Care Global Mentoring

- Communities in Schools

- Presbyterian Hospital Community Care Cruiser

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